

### **How To See God Do The Impossible** (Mark 6:35-44)

**Proposition:** In this text there are three actions that we can take in situation to see God do the impossible.

- I. See Further Than Our Limitations
  - A. The Limitation of Resilience
  - B. The Limitation of Responsibility
  - C. The Limitation of Resources
- II. Surrender Forth Our Accumulations
  - A. Surrender In Spite of its Lack of Size
  - B. Surrender In Spite of its Lack of Sufficiency
- III. Seek For Omnipotent Demonstrations
  - A. To Multiply the Resources
  - B. To Meet the Requirement
  - C. To Magnify the Redeemer

## How to See God To the Impossible Mk 6:35-41

Some things in life are just an impossibility. Take for instance the city council in County Cork Ireland many years ago. There were having a lot of trouble w/ criminals and their jail was overflowing. But the town also had a great shortage of funds. The Council dealt w/ the problem by passing a 3-part resolution: 1) The city shall build a new jail. 2) The jail shall be built out of materials in the old jail. 3) The old jail shall be used until the new jail is completed. It

doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand that that is an impossibility. We often face impossibilities in our lives but I am here to tell you that what many seem impossible to you and I is never an impossibility w/ God. Time + time again we are told in the Bible that nothing is impossible w/ God. In this text there are 3 actions that we can take in a situation to see God to the impossible. The

first thing we can do is...

I See Further than Our Limitations - New disciples are great at seeing the limitations in a situation. Many of us are like the crowd about that set out to



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A. The limitation of Resilience<sup>V535</sup> - Now remember in the previous verses these guys had their rest cut short by the great need of the multitude. Also these disciples were probably the hungriest of the crowd. V31 They couldn't even eat.

Tired & Hungry & here a hare they were limited in their resilience. I can't deal <sup>more</sup> any <sup>V536</sup>

B. The limitation of Responsibility - Send them out of here. It's not our responsibility to feed them. Let them go out to feed for themselves. Someone once said "Responsibility is our response to God's ability." They were not responding to Christ's ability to feed the crowd. Do we shirk our responsibility?

C. The limitation of Resources - V37

This 200 penny worth is approximately one years wages. When I was a child and I would answer my dad's question in an outlandish sarcastic way my dad would say don't get smart w/ me! It is as though this disciple is smarting off to Jesus. But some times we do the same when we

II. Surrender Forth Our Accumulation

But in kindness the Lord responds to his faithless disciples, basically show me what you have. He is asking them

- 1) ...Positive Thinking" and then thought "What good will that do?" Notice the limitations these disciples saw.

2) ...not Lord over all, He's not Lord at all

...but a wee lamb, and he offered it to God, and a sweet smelling savour came to God's nostrils. Miraculously, what is in thy hand? said the Lord. Nothing but a staff, Lord, to tend my flock. Take it and use it for me, said the Lord - and with that he wrought more things than great Egypt had ever seen. Mary, what is in your hand? Nothing but a pot of sweet smelling ointment, and with it she anointed the Holy One of God, and the fragrance filled the house and the world, for the story is recounted wherever the gospel is preached. Poor widow, what is in thy hand? Only two mites, Lord, but all she had, she gave

- 2) ...when we do not see beyond the limitation of our resources.
- that they have. What is in thy hand, Dorcas? Only a needle, Lord. Take it and use it for me, and so she did - warming the poor and the needy of Joppa. Little lad, what is in your hand? Just my lunch, Lord. Give it to me, and I will feed more than 2000 with it, and to spare.

1) ...if we would see God do the impossible, we must surrender, give Him complete ownership of what little we have.

2) ...not Lord over all, He's not Lord at all!

....but a wee lamb', and he offered it to God, and a sweet smelling savour came to God's nostrils. 'Moses, what is in thy hand?', said the Lord; 'Nothing but a staff, Lord, to tend my flock'. 'Take it and use it for me', said the Lord - and with that he wrought more things than great Egypt had ever seen. 'Mary, what is in your hand?'. 'Nothing but a pot of sweet smelling ointment', and with it she anointed the Holy One of God, and the fragrance filled the house and the world, for the story is recounted wherever the gospel is preached. 'Poor widow, what is in thy hand?'. 'Only two mites, Lord', but all she had, she gave it - and her story has prompted the humblest soul in giving all that they have. 'What is in thy hand, Dorcas?'. 'Only a needle, Lord'. 'Take it and use it for me', and so she did - warming the poor and the needy of Joppa. 'Little lad, what is in your hand?'. 'Just my lunch, Lord'. 'Give it to me, and I will feed more than 5000 with it, and to spare.'



to surrender what they have. <sup>VS 3</sup> If we would see  
A. Surrender in Spite of its Lack of Size  
Five loaves + two fishes. We know from  
the other gospels that this was a small  
boy's meager lunch. Barely enough to  
feed him. Sometimes in order to see  
the impossible we must risk that which  
seems indispensable. Lord I need this.  
This is mine. But it is a fact from the  
the word of God that when God sets  
out to do the impossible more times  
than not it is through the instrumentality  
of man. Surrender it. <sup>VS 4</sup> If he's not <sup>3</sup> over  
B. Surrender in Spite of its Lack of Sufficiency

5 loaves and 2 small fishes, Tom  
Hargis called them not much more  
than saltines and sardines. That <sup>VS</sup>  
a crowd of 5000 men + women + children?  
This is the definition of insufficiency.  
Yet Faith is not to be set upon the  
material but on the Almighty. No  
matter what it looks like to us we  
are to surrender in faith. A writer once  
said: The Lord said to Ahel, "What is  
in thy hand?" <sup>3</sup> Nothing but a wheelbarrow."

III. Seek for Omnipotent Demonstration  
It is true what the poet said "When  
we have exhausted our store of  
endurance, when our strength has

failed ere the day is half done, when the  
**A. To Multiply the Resources** - God  
takes what we yield up and multiplies  
it. These meager resources  
went far beyond what could be  
seen by human reasoning, and  
so it is true with us. Your or your  
own strength and ability are insignificant  
but those yielded to the hands of the master  
**B. To Meet the Requirement** - vs 42. This  
was a seemingly insurmountable  
need. This world around us has great  
needs. We need not send them away  
**Christ is sufficient. He can take our**  
small resources and meet the  
need of this world.

**C. To Magnify the Redeemer** - vs 43  
Some say this was an hallucination. That  
folks just thought they felt full. Well  
that must have been some more of an  
hallucination because there were 12 Baskets  
left over. In John 6, we are given the  
sermon after the miracle where Jesus  
presents himself as the all-sufficient ~~ahow~~  
**IV. Closing** - One author writes "Only  
an all-powerful God can do the impos-  
sible with the impossible."

- 1) ...When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,  
Our Father's full giving is only begun'.

- 2) ...all sufficient abundant bread from heaven, not like the manna  
from heaven which after eaten men still die. No He is the bread  
from heaven which when received, men never die.